



MINUTES
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
City Hall, 5th Floor Large Conference Room
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522
February 12, 2007 at 6:00pm
ADA Coordinator - (951) 826-5427

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Commission on Disabilities is to promote greater awareness of, respect for, and the total participation of individuals with disabilities into all aspects of life.

1. **Call to Order:** 6:04 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Paul Van Doren
3. **Roll Call:** Chairperson Paul Van Doren, Vice-Chair Terry Gregersen, Ed Rush, James Stream, Gene Brosious, Gigi Welch, Linda Garcia, Debbie Keller

Lesley Robinson arrived after roll call.

Absent (excused): Suzanne Puffer, Dickey DeLoss

Also present were Administrative Services Manager Susan Cox, Deputy City Attorney Neil Okazaki, ADA Coordinator Monique Gordon, Communications Technician Scott Brosious and Chris Bartly, Sign Language Interpreter.

4. **Minutes:** Minutes for the meeting of January 8, 2006
M/S Garcia/Gregersen and unanimous to approve the January 8, 2007 minutes as presented.

AYES – 7 NOES- 0; ABSTAIN – 1 (Rush); ABSENT – 3 (Robinson, Puffer, DeLoss).

5. **Introductions and Public Comment**

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on any subject matter that is within the Commission's jurisdiction.

No Public comment.

6. **Old Business**

A. Interaction with the Community (Channel 32 notes concerning COD items)

- 1) Presentation of Draft Video Presentation concerning Commission on Disabilities Community Outreach (Scott Brosious)
 - Board suggestions for modifications or revisions
 - Draft Script included in agenda packet for your review and comment.

Scott Brosious presented the Draft Video presentation to display material previously collected for the COD public service announcement (PSA). The Commission suggested adding the following elements:

- Shots of Fairmont Park and development of the new park – Parks and Recreation may have existing images
- Accessible Playground – outside Fairmont Park
- Special transportation
- Metro Link stations – accessibility shots
- City Hall accessible bathrooms
- Bus Terminal accessibility
- University shots
- Malls and restaurants showing accessibility
- Accessible entertainment i.e. closed captioned movies
- Disabled person working – deaf and/or developmentally disabled
- Inaccessible situations versus accessible situations
- New curb cuts – possible Public Works footage

It was agreed that use of sign language in the video might distract from the PSA; closed captioning would be used instead. Scott will contact Linda Garcia and Paul Van Doren when he was ready for their PSA voice-overs.

B. Police Department presentation on Outreach Programs

This item was taken out of order and heard at the end of the meeting.

(Approximately 7:20 PM)

Captain Mark Boyer addressed the COD and discussed how the police academy incorporates training concerning interaction with the disabled community. He noted the following:

- Training: At hire, the 26 week police academy training includes 9 hours of disabled awareness.
 - Training is designed to give new officers pause for thought concerning various interactions with the disabled and gets officers to ask themselves how they would react in certain situations.
- After the academy, new officers work with senior officers and again are made aware of issues concerning the disabled community.

- Next, field training contains exposure to critical incidents (i.e. shoot/don't shoot scenarios), police officer standards and additional training concerning interaction with the disabled community, i.e. communication with the deaf.
- Rick Wheeler is the sign language interpreter for the Police Department (PD)

Captain Boyer discussed new levels of service now available at Magnolia Station:

- Accessibility in terms of furniture, restrooms, elevators and Braille availability.
- Victim/witness area accessibility
- New Community Room available to the public
- Officers carry notepads, pencils, paper and translator lists with them during shifts
- Communications center is fully accessible
- PD is fully internet connected and provides public information
- Encourage interactions with children and strive to ensure that their first interaction with PD is positive
- Previously, 911 calls went to CHP, but they now go directly to RPD for emergency. The non-emergency number is 787-7911.

Captain Boyer noted that Lincoln Station was anticipating a \$400,000 remodel in the future.

In response to a question from Commissioner Garcia concerning autistic behavior issues, Captain Boyer noted that officers are compassionate people and they are directed to contact a supervisor if they are unsure about how to handle a situation. Captain Boyer also noted that when a mentally disabled person is encountered, the Fire Department responds to the situation along with RPD. In a situation where the disability is unapparent or masked, an EMT or Fire unit also responds.

Captain noted that the COD could contact him at 826-5765 or mboyer@riversideca.gov and he would personally respond.

Commissioner Stream noted that his company produces PD training videos concerning interaction with the cognitively disabled (formally called mentally retarded) and other communication with the disabled. He also noted that all jurisdictions could use additional training.

In response to a question from Commissioner Stream concerning roll call training, Captain Boyer noted that there was roll call training, but the difficulty was that three (3) shifts needed to be equally covered.

In response to a question from Administrative Service Manager Cox concerning if the Magnolia Station interview spaces were accessible, Captain Boyer responded that they were.

Deputy City Attorney Okazaki commended that the PD made an effort to ensure ADA compliance throughout the Magnolia Station. It was noted that the PD and City should publicize the positive aspects of the station.

- C. Cost to produce bookmarks from City of Riverside Publishing Department:
- Requires 100 lb gloss coated paper
 - Cost to copy is \$.40 per sheet of 3 bookmarks
 - Cost to laminate is \$1 each sheet of 3 bookmarks
 - **Total cost to produce \$1.40 for 3 or \$.47 each**

The Commission discussed the existing bookmark design, cost and production costs. It was agreed that the bookmark design and cost were acceptable and permission was given to proceed with production with City Publishing Services.

M/S Robinson/Stream and unanimous to produce 333 full sheets of bookmarks (999 each) for an approximate cost of \$466.20.

AYES – 9; NOES – 0 ABSTAIN – 0; ABSENT- 2 (Puffer, DeLoss)

D. Utility Bill Insert Procedure

The Commission discussed the paper quality, cost and process involved in sending out COD information via utility bill insert. Since the inserts would need to be produced by a source outside the City's Publishing Services, it was agreed that consultation would be required from a graphic artists concerning grey scale graphics.

Commissioner Stream noted that the inserts would be "throw away" so they needed to be visually strong with bullet points and a limited amount of actual words. Proposed information for the insert:

- Existence of the COD
- Mission Statement
- Be Visually Stimulating
- Larger font (at least 14 point)

Costs to produce were required in order to discuss budget. The Commission requested that the insert be scheduled for distribution in October 2007 to coincide with "Disability Month". It was agreed that the bookmark format will be enlarged (nothing smaller than 1/3 sheet size is allowed) and the TDD line information will be added.

Commissioner Brosious suggested that RCC be used for insert production since they will work for non-profit agencies at cost and that they are a vocational training facility.

7. New Business

- A. Annual Boards and Commission Reception on Monday, March 26, 2007 at 5:30 pm. Entertainment/Reception/Dinner and 6:15 pm program in the lower level of the Municipal Auditorium.

Item noted by the COD.

B. Election of Officers at March 2007 meeting.

Item noted by the COD. Voting will be accomplished by a show of hands versus sealed ballots.

8. Future Agenda Items

- A. Project Update from Parks and Recreation concerning Universally Accessible Parks – Andulka and Fairmont

Parks and Recreation Task Force will be contacted in the near future to evaluate proposals for construction of universally accessible playgrounds.

- B. Information concerning use of the Utility bill for a COD public service announcements

- 1) "Message" space on the utility bill is reserved for utility related issues
- 2) Available dates for utility bill "insert" will be provided by Public Utilities - insert information must be available
- 3) COD discussion concerning what information will be inserted

- C. Information from Marketing concerning the COD Brochure

- D. Local Commissions on Disability – Board member Gigi Welch suggests that the Board visit other local, working commissions on disabilities that have been established for a longer period of time to observe how they work and what they have accomplished. The Riverside COD may want to accomplish goals similar to other commissions. Currently identified local agencies are:

- 1) City of Los Angeles
- 2) County of Los Angeles
- 3) Various Universities

8. Items for future Commission Consideration

This is an opportunity for Commissioners to reference any items that arise during the meeting but are not a part of the meeting agenda.

(Approximately 7:30)

Commissioner Stream distributed articles for the next agenda concerning intellectual disabilities. It was noted that no disability related issue was excluded from the COD's purview.

Commissioner Garcia distributed articles for the next agenda concerning Senior Wheels USA, an organization that provided wheelchairs at no cost. She also provided information concerning support groups available through the County of Riverside.

Chairman Van Doren requested that staff provide information concerning the City new transportation rules about trip denials and no shows.

It was noted that funeral services for Dickey DeLoss would be held at 10:00 am at Magnolia Presbyterian Church on 2/15/07.

9. Adjournment: 7:42 pm

These minutes approved at the March 12, 2007 meeting as presented. No audio or video tapes of the meeting are available.

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